

South Africa's New Boss

Verwoerd is Architect of Apartheid

By COLIN LEWIS

CAPETOWN (UPI)—

Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd, 57-year-old strong-

man of Afrikaner nationalism,

has emerged as victor in the

struggle for the election of

South Africa's sixth Prime

Minister. The moderate wing

of the Nationalists fought

openly to balk the ambitions

of the architect of apartheid

to succeed the late Mr. Strij-

dom.

Tall, burly and white-

haired, Dr. Verwoerd left

the scene after a two-

hour tumultuous struggle,

to announce that he had

been proclaimed the unan-

imous support of all his col-

leagues after his narrow

victory. He assumed the

Premiership at a critical

time in South African po-

litics. The white Opposition

party in Parliament is di-

vided and demoralized and

sees no prospect of winning

an election on its own. De-

sparingly it looks to the

Nationalist Party to split

under the uncompromising

rule of Dr. Verwoerd. The

non-European movement is

crippled and weak, and shows

little sign of being able to

exercise any effective ex-

tra-parliamentary opposition

at this time.

Total Separation

Politically speaking, there-

fore, the new Prime Min-

ister has the country at his

feet. He has virtually un-

limited power over the three mil-

lions Europeans and eight mil-

lion non-Europeans. The ques-

tion is how he will use his

power. Dr. Verwoerd be-

lieves that everything pos-

sible should be done to

lay the foundation for a

black nation living side

by side with a white nation

within the boundaries of

South Africa.

Dr. Verwoerd described his

concept of the quality of

friendship in an article

published only a few days

ago. "Blacks, convictions and

"firm action," he wrote, "com-

mand the esteem of

friend and foe alike."

Dr. Verwoerd is a South

African Prime Minister, he

is filled with patri-

otism and pride. He

is a man of such me-

asure as to be com-

patible with a Chris-

tian conscience to reach his

goal. Thus his own con-

science justified all the racial

measures taken during his

term as Minister of

Native Affairs to de-

velop all effective political

rights to Africans and to

non-whites into their own

community, divorced from

European education.

"No Holes"

He is at present announc-

ing a Bill designed to re-

move all non-whites from

the open universities that

still remain multi-racial.

Parliamentary action

Minister's actions toward his

people. His aim is to

create a State free from racial

strife in order that

everybody might be happy.

But racial strife is more

acute in this country today

than at any time in its

history. Finally, he pro-

claims that the Afrikaner

leader is never discon-

cerned or a power-greedy

ruler. Dr. Verwoerd's

opponents regard him as the

most self-centered

Parliamentarian in po-

litics. Nobody doubts his

honesty, but the Afri-

cans are deeply suspicious of

the way in which he has

used his great power.

The greatest immediate

challenge facing Dr. Ver-

woerd comes, however,

from his opponents, whether

white or black, but from the

Afrikaner intellectuals who

until recently regarded him

as their champion. As a

professor of psychology and

sociology at Stellenbosch

University—the nursery of

Afrikaner nationalism—Dr.

Verwoerd dreamed of an

Afrikaner nation strong

enough to make the neces-

sary economic sacrifices to

stand on its own white

feet and to every black

labour. Uncharacteristic of

South African society, the

Verwoerd household never

employed non-white servants.

Verwoerd always knew it

would take great courage to

persuade a white society to

follow this lead—not only

so far as their homes are

concerned, but also on their

farm and in their industries.

This is the fundamental

principle involved in total

apartheid. The quarrel between

his former colleagues and

himself has been caused by

his compromise stance be-

came an active politician.

"Verwoerd," they say, "has

become a victim of political

security and has compro-

mised his sacred principles."

But the architect of ap-

artheid dismissed these al-

legations as the unrealistic

criticisms of people

without responsibility.

Split in SAIRA

This divergence of opinion

has precipitated a split in

SAIRA, the Afrikaner Na-

tionalist Bureau for Racial

Affairs which seeks to edu-

cate white South Africans

towards the ideals of total

separation. Verwoerd insists

that time and patience will

bring South Africa to the

point to realize that the only

safe future for this Com-

monwealth country is to em-

brace apartheid wholeheart-

edly. As Minister of Native

Affairs he has been several

times in the firing line of

leading battles within the

Cabinet over the amount of

money made available to

speed his apartheid pro-

gramme. As Prime Minister

he will be in a stronger po-

sition to exert his influence

to make the necessary sac-

rifices.

Dr. Verwoerd is a passion-

ate republican, preferably

divorced from the British

Commonwealth.

World Watches Britain's Aircraft

By F. TOMLINSON

FARNBOROUGH, England.

(UPI)—

FREE traditional "dog win-

ning" of the British air-

craft industry, the Farn-

borough Air Show, has a high-

er profile this year than any

other I have seen. Since the

opening of the Royal Aircraft

Society of British Aircraft

Constructors introduced the

series in 1952, there have

been years in which a great

er concentration of aircraft

was seen by the public for

the first time. But in my

post-war experience I have

never been so impressed by

the display of aircraft as

more or less constant stream

of high-speed aircraft doing

their prima donna tricks

within a few feet of the run-

way.

The helicopters would be a

circus manager's delight

(they do almost everything

but sit up and beg), but

the two outstanding ex-

amples of how far British

has come in the last few